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Arthur C. Gee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.



BOROUGH OF SOUTHWOLD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To:           The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of  
              the Borough of Southwold.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1958.

There has been a further drop in the population to 2,380 persons. From the end of the war to 1953 the population of the Borough fluctuated quite considerably. From 1954 onwards it has fallen steadily from a maximum in that year of 2,450, to the present figure.

Both the birth rate and the death rate continue to fluctuate however. The highest birth rates recently were in 1953 and 1956. The lowest occurred in the year under review, which is very much below the average for England and Wales as a whole. The death rate on the other hand keeps fairly steady and is lower than the average for England and Wales.

Of the causes of death, heart disease and its associated disorders heads the list. The incidence of cancer, as a cause of death is not high. There was only one death from cancer of the lung recorded.

Measles and whooping cough amongst the children and pneumonia amongst the older people were the only infections prevalent to any degree. Both measles and whooping cough occurred extensively in the neighbouring parish of Reydon, so it was not surprising to find the children of this Borough also heavily involved.

Supplies of antipolio vaccine became readily available during the year. Facilities for antipolio immunisation were provided by the family doctors within the Borough and at the



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## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health 1958 (Contd).

Welfare Centre. One's general impression is that the response has been good.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR C. GEE.

Medical Officer of Health.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	10	5	15
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>15</u>
		<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>15</u>
		<u>Southwold.</u>	<u>Comparative figure for England &amp; Wales.</u>	
BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1958		6.3 (Crude) 9.5 (Adjusted)		16.4
STILL BIRTHS		Nil.		
DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1958		16.0 (Crude) 10.0 (Adjusted)		11.7
DEATHS OF INFANTS		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
under ONE year of age	) Legitimate	2	-	
	) Illegitimate	-	-	
		<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	
		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	
DEATH OF INFANTS	) Legitimate	2	-	
under 4 weeks of age	) Illegitimate	-	-	
		<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	





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GENERAL STATISTICS.

Registrar-General's estimated population (mid 1958) ..... 2,380.  
 Number of inhabited houses as at 31st. December, 1958 ... 1,280.  
 Rateable Value as at 31st. December, 1958 ..... £39,054.

COMPARATIVE TABLE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>
Population	2380	2400	2410	2440	2450
Births	15	20	27	26	20
Birth rate per 1,000 (Crude)	6.3	8.3	11.2	10.5	12.5
" " " " (Adjusted)	9.5	12.6	17.0	15.9	-
Deaths	38	42	36	39	38
Death rate per 1,000 (Crude)	16	17.5	14.9	15.9	8.9
" " " " (Adjusted)	10	10.7	9.3	9.2	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year, with a comparison of previous years:

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>
Measles	45	12	1	8
Pneumonia	12	11	8	5
Whooping Cough	30	3	1	4
Dysentery	-	-	1	-
Tuberculosis	-	1	3	1
Scarlet Fever	-	1	2	-
Food Poisoning	-	3	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-
Malaria	1	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	1	1	-

The notification of infectious diseases was higher than for the past few years. Measles is the main infectious disease generally these days and there is as yet no prophylactic injection against it. It is rather surprising to see so many cases of whooping cough notified, as one's impression is that parents are keen to have their children immunised against this infection.





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The one case of malaria which occurred was contracted overseas, but diagnosed when the patient returned to this country.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1) Malignant neoplasm; stomach	-	1	1
2) Malignant neoplasm, lung	1	-	1
3) Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	3	8
4) Vascular lesions of the nervous system	-	4	4
5) Coronary disease angina	4	4	8
6) Hypertensions with heart disease	-	1	1
7) Other heart diseases	1	5	6
8) Other circulatory diseases	-	1	1
9) Pneumonia	-	2	2
10) Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	-	1
11) Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
12) Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	-	3
13) Motor accidents	-	-	-
14) All other accidents	1	-	1
	<u>17</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>38</u>

HOME HELP SERVICE.

Home helps are still badly needed for service within the Borough. The difficulty of finding women for this service has curtailed the help which might otherwise have been provided.

During the year, 9 old persons and 5 sick were provided with help, a total of 6,403 hours help having been provided during the year, i.e. an average of 9 hours per case per week.

HOME NURSING.

The District Nurse/Midwife for Southwold is Miss Flowerdew. In addition to her duties within the Borough she also covers the parishes of Reydon and Easton Bavents. It is not possible to



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split the figures for her work down to show exactly how much she has done in Southwold itself, but the figures shown indicate her total work in this area. These remarks apply to previous years statistics, which thus form a basis for comparison. Total cases 74 of which 69 were over the age of 65 years. Total visits paid 1180; 1039 of which were to persons over 65 years of age.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	<u>MALES</u>		<u>FEMALES</u>		<u>Total.</u>
	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pul..</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>	
Number of cases on the Register at 31st. December, 1957	6	-	6	1	13
Number of cases added during the year	1	-	-	-	1
Number of cases removed during the year	2	-	1	-	3
Number of cases on the Register at 31st. December, 1958	5	-	5	1	11

Cases Added to the Register.

New notifications	=	-
Inward transfers	=	1
<u>Total</u>		<u>1</u>

Cases Removed from the Register.

Recovered	=	3
Died	=	-
Removed to other areas	=	1
		<u>3</u>

Cases on the Register, according to age and sex at 31st Dec.1958.

<u>Age Group.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Under 5 years	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	2	2
25 - 44 years	1	1	2
45 - 64 years	4	2	6
65 years and over	-	1	1
Age unknown	-	-	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>11</u>





BOROUGH OF SOUTHWOLD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of  
the Borough of Southwold.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Borough and the work done during the year 1958.

WATER SUPPLY.

A wholesome and sufficient supply of water for all requirements has been maintained throughout the year by the Southwold Waterworks Company Limited. Samples taken during the year have been satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The main sewerage scheme on the whole has worked satisfactorily. Major works are necessary at the sewage works to provide an innocuous effluent and a scheme is being prepared.

All drains are examined before being covered in and smoke or water tests applied where applicable.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

House refuse collection is carried out by contract, and the present contractors Messrs. May Bros. have carried out their duties with every satisfaction.

All house refuse is tipped and kept under control at our tip situated near the Gasometer works.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1958 (including Dwellinghouses).

During the year 276 premises were visited, of which 150 were dwellinghouses and 126 various other premises.

In the course of these inspections 99 defects or nuisances were found and 87 were abated. To secure the abatement of these defects and nuisances 36 informal notices were served upon the owners or agents concerned, in addition to personal interviews by the Public Health Inspector.





Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector 1958 (Contd).

SHOP ACT, 1950: SECTION 38.

There are 101 shops in the district which are visited periodically, and there have been two contraventions found and remedied.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Number of factory chimneys in the district	3
" " observations taken	9
" " legal proceedings taken	0

A new chimney has been erected, to serve the modern plant installed during the year, at the Sole Bay Brewery.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There have been no contraventions of the Factory Act, 1937.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat Inspection.

No slaughtering takes place within the district, but the Public Health Inspector assists the Lothingland Rural District Council by inspecting all animals slaughtered at a slaughterhouse situated at Reydon.

Other Foods Inspection.

The following tinned and other foods were inspected, condemned and destroyed, being unfit for human consumption:-

Peaches	4 tins	12 lbs.	
Kidneys	1 tin		12 ozs.
Corned Beef	2 tins	10 lbs.	
Cooked Shoulder	1 tin	4 lbs.	
Duck	1 tin	3 lbs.	2 ozs.
		<hr/>	
		29 lbs. 14 ozs.	
		<hr/> <hr/>	

Food Premises.

No. of premises inspected	55
No. of inspections made	79
No. of premises found unsatisfactory	2
No. of premises rendered satisfactory	2



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No. of Premises registered under Sect. 16, Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

Ice Cream - Manufacture	0
Ice Cream - Storage or sale only	12
Sausages, preserved foods, etc.	4

DAIRIES AND RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK.

There are two local dairies which are periodically inspected and are kept under good conditions.

Supplementary licences for sale of Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested Milks respectively were issued, also 3 Dealers licences authorising the use of the Special Designations (3) Tuberculin Tested, and (1) Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS AND BAKERIES.

These have been found to be satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL - PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Prevalance of Rats and Mice.

Type of Property.	Total.	Notified by Occupier	by Other-wise.	Recorded.	Rats Major.	Rats Minor.	Mice Only.
Local Authority Dwellinghouses	3	-	2	2	2	-	-
Business	1005	84	7	91	-	91	-
Agricultural	273	3	-	3	-	3	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTAL</u>	1281	87	9	96	2	94	-

Measures of Control by Local Authority.

Type of Property.	Number Inspected.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Notices Served, Section 4.	
			Treatments.	Works.
Local Authority Dwellinghouses	3	15	0	0
Business	286	361	0	0
Agricultural	70	84	0	0
	0	0	0	0
<u>TOTAL</u>	359	460	0	0





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Type of Property.	Number of Treatments carried out				Block treatment of properties in different occupancies under Sect. 6 (1) or by informal arrangements.		
	By arrange-ment with owner.		Under Section 5 (1).		No. of Surface Asscd. Sewers.		
	Rats.	Mice	Rats.	Mice	Blocks.	No. of separate occupancies.	No. of manholes treated.
		only.		only.			
Local Authority	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dwellingshouses	84	0	0	0	6	37	3
Business	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agricultural	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>TOTAL</u>	93	0	0	0	6	37	3

In addition two maintenance treatments of the sewers in the District involving the baiting and poisoning of approximately 38 manholes were carried out with much success.

HOUSING.

New Houses.

No. of new houses erected by Local Authority 4  
No. of new houses erected by private enterprise 3

Demolition.

No. of houses demolished (informal action) 5

Improvement Grants.

No. of Improvement Grants approved during the year 10

Disinfection, &c.

No. of premises disinfected 1  
No. of premises disinfectest 2

G.OAKES.

Public Health Inspector.

July, 1959.







